

## Today's News - Wednesday, December 7, 2016

- Rogers and Harbour urge Sydney to build tall and close to the water, but the city "wants to ensure" that a Barangaroo "doesn't happen again" - it "is not an urban design strategy."
- King parses SF's new towers that are redefining the skyline: "this is not your parents' San Francisco. What I find most startling is this: The people I've heard from don't seem particularly upset."
- Mallett lays out how to "reinvigorate planning. We are missing out on major opportunities to densify and intensify because of outdated planning shibboleths and rules that preclude new thinking."
- LeBlanc explores how VR "is already disrupting the architectural design industry - and architecture will never be the same."
- Zacks delves into how "climate change displacement is becoming the new gentrification" and "how to stop it - and why is anyone rushing to live in disaster zones?"
- Green gets a progress report from the six teams in the Rebuild by Design initiative two years into planning and design.
- Marks Barfield brings a "green heart" to the University of Cambridge Primary School with a "BREEAM Excellent-rated campus powered by solar energy."
- Wainwright picks his "top 10 buildings of 2016" that includes a "billion-dollar beanpole," which he finds "hard to believe" that it came "from the same hand as London's bloated Walkie Talkie."
- Moore makes his pick of the best architecture of 2016 (and one "turkey").
- Maltese architect Fiorentino bemoans that "money and time have replaced the true ingredients of Maltese architecture. Let us give the present Maltese character to the people yet to come."
- Ghanaians wanting to study architecture used to head to Europe or the U.S., bringing back "foreign techniques, foreign materials, and creating foreign buildings" - now, they are "just as likely to study within their home country. With a new wave of talent emerging, so too is distinctly Ghanaian architecture."
- Studio Gang is tapped to design the expansion of the Arkansas Arts Center in Little Rock (now all they have to do is raise the money).
- Greenwald highlights Snøhetta's "collective skill sets and problem solving process. Analyzing their innovation process can yield important lessons for companies."
- Heatherwick sits down at the Parsons Table with Paul Goldberger: "I don't have the confidence to design a thingy that makes you go, 'Wow' - I'd like to find an alternative that emphasizes value and isn't rubbish."
- Miranda takes us on a "tour through dark chapters of American history" found at National Park Service sites "dealing with issues of race and ethnicity" - it was a "visceral" experience, "and given the political moment, so incredibly relevant."
- Volner found "a subdued" and "downbeat mood" at Design Miami - "it seemed like everyone was just trying to stay high and dry."
- Winners all in the Architecture at Zero's net-zero energy competition + Canadian Architect 2016 Awards of Excellence + 2016 International Awards for Religious Art & Architecture.

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**Build tall close to water: Barangaroo a model, Richard Rogers says: But Barangaroo...was not subject to Sydney planning controls - a situation Lord Mayor Clover Moore's administration wants to ensure doesn't happen again...the City rejected Lord Rogers' view..."Assigning the water's edge to a few very tall towers...is not an urban design strategy." -- Ivan Harbour/Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners [images]- Australian Financial Review**

**John King: New SF towers redefine the skyline and the city: ...this is not your parents' San Francisco...What I find most startling is this: The people I've heard from don't seem particularly upset...the emerging skyline underscores how today's San Francisco isn't quite so inward-focused as in the past. -- Pelli Clarke Pelli; Foster + Partners; Heller Manus [images]- San Francisco Chronicle**

**Lee Mallett/Urbik: How research by design can reinvigorate planning: A more visionary approach...can harness the market rather than being driven by it: We need a stricter incremental, delivery-focused, "onward-only" regime for progressive planning...We are missing out on major opportunities to densify and intensify...because of outdated planning shibboleths and rules that preclude new thinking. - BD/Building Design (UK)**

**Dave LeBlanc: Virtual reality is already disrupting the architectural design industry: ...architects, educators and students are beginning to spend a lot more time in this brave new world...and architecture will never be the same... "In the end there are two kinds of people...Those who think VR will change the world, and those who haven't tried VR." -- Linebox Studios; Yulio- Globe and Mail (Canada)**

**Stephen Zacks: Sink or Swim? Climate change displacement is becoming the new gentrification - here's how to stop it: ...local and federal agencies are working with architects and planners to protect communities and redevelop neighborhoods...But what happens to residents who are too poor to get out of the way of storms - and too poor to return - and why is anyone rushing to live in disaster zones? -- Deborah Gans; James Garrison; Susannah Drake of DLANDstudio; AECOM; BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group [images]- The Architect's Newspaper**

**Jared Green: A Progress Report from the Cutting Edge of Resilient Design: Rebuild by Design...provided updates on how the six teams devising novel resilient designs in the tri-state area are doing two years into planning and design...[and receiving] nearly \$1 billion in public financing. -- David Kooris/Connecticut; Alan Plattus/Yale University; MIT CAU; ZUS; URBANISTEN; SCAPE Landscape Architecture; H+N+S; One Architecture; BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group; Starr Whitehouse; Mathews Nielsen; OLIN; PennDesign [images, links to details]- The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)**

**A green heart unifies the solar-powered University of Cambridge Primary School: Marks Barfield Architects has completed the innovative and flexible school, a BREEAM Excellent-rated campus powered by solar energy. [images]- Inhabitat**

**Oliver Wainwright's top 10 buildings of 2016: A billion-dollar beanpole, a social housing revolution, a powerful memorial in Norway and the Tate's wondrous watchtower. -- Herzog & de Meuron; Lacaton & Vassal; Christ & Gantenbein; Karakusevic Carson; Blakstad Haffner; Peter Barber; 6a Architects; Heneghan Peng; Rafael Viñoly [images]- Guardian (UK)**

**Rowan Moore: best architecture of 2016: It was a good year for council housing, African American culture and Herzog & de Meuron - and a bad one for garden bridges. -- Alison Brooks Architects; David Adjaye; Zaha Hadid; Peter Salter/Crispin Kelly;dRMM; Acme; 6a Architects; Thomas Heatherwick [images]- Observer (UK)**

**Built in stone: Why have Maltese houses been allowed to lose that distinctive look? Architecture has to shift, evolve and develop in parallel to its society...Money and time have replaced the true ingredients of Maltese architecture...Let us give the present Maltese character to the people yet to come. By Janice Fiorentino, (X,Y,Z) Architecture & Design- Times of Malta**

**The rising star in the world of architecture: It used to be that Ghanaians...picked a school in Europe or the United States. Returning, they'd bring foreign techniques, import foreign materials, and create foreign buildings...Now, local architects are just as likely to study from within their home country. With a new wave of talent emerging, so too is distinctly Ghanaian architecture. -- Akosua Obeng/Orthner, Orthner & Associates; Frances Buckle-Thompson [images]- CNN Africa**

**Arkansas Arts Center picks redo firm: Board taps Studio Gang to design estimated \$46M project: ...it will remain in downtown**

Michelle Greenwald: 17 Important Innovation Lessons From One Of The World's Great Architecture Firms: The phenomenal range of structures and environments they've created results from how Snøhetta adapts its collective skill sets and problem solving process...Analyzing their innovation process can yield important lessons for companies. Here are some highlights. -- Craig Dykers - Forbes

Thomas Heatherwick Talks Designing for Social Good at the Parsons Table with Paul Goldberger: "I don't have the confidence to design a thingy that makes you go, 'Wow'...I'd like to design more humane prisons, hospitals, or nursing homes...I'd like to find an alternative that emphasizes value and isn't rubbish." - The New School News

Carolina A. Miranda: A tour through dark chapters of American history hits close to home: If you read about the histories of the National Park Service sites dealing with issues of race and ethnicity you will see a lot of numbers...But taking the time to go to these sites makes these abstract figures come to life - connecting them to very real human stories...It is those individual stories that makes a visit to these sites so incredibly visceral. And given the political moment, so incredibly relevant. [images]- Los Angeles Times

Ian Volner: High and Dry at Design Miami: ...a subdued installment of the annual art and design fair that took over Miami Beach last week: For all the bustle of construction and innovation, there was a definite shadow over the fair...The downbeat mood didn't adversely affect the fair too much...it seemed like everyone was just trying to stay high and dry. [images]- Architect Magazine

0 to Hero: Architecture at Zero's net-zero energy competition winners announced: ...focused on the development of ZN) student housing for the San Francisco State University...to accommodate the erection of 784 housing units... -- PG&E; American Institute of Architects, California Council; Modus Studio; Dialog; LITTLE; etc. [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

Canadian Architect 2016 Awards of Excellence Winners Announced: ...given to architects and architectural graduates for buildings in the design stage. -- Barry Johns Architecture; gh3/Morrison Hershfield; KANVA; Leckie Studio Architecture + Design; STUFF/Studio for Transformative Urban Forms and Fields; 5468796 Architecture; Heneghan Peng Architects/Kearns Mancini Architects; Provencher\_Roy/GLCRM Architects; Batay-Csorba Architects; etc. [images]- Canadian Architect

2016 International Awards for Religious Art & Architecture: Of the 28 winning projects...13 (nearly half) were designed or created for sites outside of North America. [images]- Faith & Form Magazine / Interfaith Forum on Religion, Art and Architecture (IFRAA)

Studio Gang: WMS Boathouse, Chicago: ...small infrastructure projects like [this] have begun to catalyze previously unusable sections of the Chicago River...brings modern, whimsical design to the previously unoccupied site on the North Branch of the river...Equal parts poeticism and practicality.... [images]

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